

# Wrightington Parish Council NEWSLETTER

www.wrightingtonparishcouncil.co.uk

Issue 9 July 2012  
Compiled by Mrs C A Cross—Clerk to the Council

## TIMETABLE OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS 2012/2013

### 2012

- 21 May Appley Bridge Village Hall  
ANNUAL PARISH  
MEETING 7.00 PM  
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
PARISH COUNCIL 7.30 PM
- 18 June Mossy Lea Village Hall
- 16 July Appley Bridge Village Hall
- August No Meeting
- 17 Sept Mossy Lea Village Hall
- 15 Oct Appley Bridge Village Hall
- 19 Nov Mossy Lea Village Hall
- 17 Dec Appley Bridge Village Hall

### 2013

- 21 Jan Mossy Lea Village Hall
- 18 Feb Appley Bridge Village Hall
- 18 Mar Mossy Lea Village Hall
- 15 April Appley Bridge Village Hall,
- 20 May Mossy Lea Village Hall  
ANNUAL PARISH  
MEETING 7.00 PM  
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THE PARISH COUNCIL  
7.30 PM
- All Meetings commence at  
7:30 pm with Open Forum unless  
otherwise stated on the Village Hall  
Notice Boards.

For Further Information regarding Parish Council  
Business or to report incidents,  
occurrences, observations or objections on  
Parish Matters please contact:

Mrs C A Cross

Clerk to Wrightington Parish Council  
321 Preston Road, Standish, Wigan,  
WN6 0QB

Tel: 01257 423128 or 0771 457 4478

Email:

Carolyn.parishcouncil@googlemail.com

## WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCILLORS

Following the Annual Meeting your Parish Councillors are:

### MOSSY LEA WARD

- Mr J Burton  
CHAIRMAN  
2 Courage Low Lane, Wrightington, WN6 9RY  
Tel: 01257 252225
- Mr F Hodgkinson  
93, Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington, WN6 9RE  
Tel: 01257 453428
- Mr F Johnson  
VICE- CHAIRMAN  
351 Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington, WN6 9SB  
Tel: 01257 425585

Plus 1 Vacancy

### APPLEY BRIDGE WARD

- Mr J Clinch  
16 Clifton Crescent, Wigan, WN1 2LB  
Tel: 01942 235092
- Mr I McRae  
11 Rookery Avenue, Appley Bridge, WN6 9J  
Tel: 01257 252673
- Mr D Hanlon  
8 Stonemill Rise, Appley Bridge, WN6 9BH  
Tel: 01257 255454

Plus 1 Vacancy

Vacancies are now advertised on the Parish Council Notice Boards for 1  
Mossy Lea Ward Councillor and 1 Appley Bridge Ward Councillor.  
Anyone wishing to apply for these positions should do so, in writing, to  
Mrs C A Cross, Clerk to Wrightington Parish Council,  
321 Preston Road, Standish, Wigan, Lancashire, WN6 0QB

### The following Names and Contact Details could prove useful:

#### Borough Councillor Mrs P Baybutt

High Moor Farm, High Moor Lane, Wrightington, WN6 9PS. Tel: 01257 255501

#### Borough Councillor Ms C Evans

3 Carlton Avenue, Upholland, Skelmersdale, WN8 0AE. Tel: 07771338896

#### County Councillor Ms C Evans

3 Carlton Avenue, Upholland, Skelmersdale, WN8 0AE. Tel: 01695 624683

#### Member of Parliament - Mrs Rosie Cooper MP

House of Commons, London, SW11 0AA  
(Local Office: 127 Burscough Street, Ormskirk,  
L39 2EP Tel: 01695 570094)

## MOSSY LEA AND APPLEY BRIDGE VILLAGE HALLS

Mossy Lea Village Hall, Mossy Lea Road, and Appley Bridge Village Hall, Appley Lane North, are Parish Council owned village halls available for Community Use. Both can be hired by individuals, organisations, clubs and societies wishing to hold a party, family celebration or a fundraising event. To use either of these facilities please contact the Booking Secretary for the Hall you wish to use. (Contact telephone numbers can be found under useful contacts on page 2 of this newsletter).

Contact Telephone numbers for classes and organisations using the Village Halls are:

#### Mossy Lea Village Hall:

- Nicky - Zumba 07878191814  
Nicky - Pilates 07878191814  
Michelle - Yoga 07746343282  
John - Yoga Tuesday evenings

#### Appley Bridge Village Hall:

- Susan Kiehl - Dancing Classes 07952864084  
Appley Bridge Pensioners Social Club - 01257 255108  
Appley Bridge Womens' Institute - 01257 251813

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### Useful Contacts:

**Appley Bridge Village Hall Bookings:**  
Mrs J Rogers  
01257 253781

**Mossy Lea Village Hall Bookings:**  
Mrs C Hodgkinson  
01257 453428

**West Lancashire BC Lancashire County Council General Enqs:**

0845 053 0000  
**Lancashire County Council - Highway and Street Lighting Faults:**  
0845 053 0011  
**NHS Direct:** 0845 46 47  
**Police Southern Communications Room:**  
08451 25 35 45  
**PCSO Dave Benson (Voicemail)** 01695 566051  
**Police - Non-emergency**  
101

### WRIGHTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIAL STATEMENT YEAR ENDING 31 March 2012 RECEIPTS

Balance b/f	£2965.45
WLDC - Precept	6600.00
WLDC - Concurrent Contbts	4730.00
VAT Reclaimed	803.61
Amenity Grass Cutting - LCC	340.53
Successful LAG bid	6583.02
Capital Bids 2010/11 & 2011/12	3128.00
ABVH Committee	4852.00
MLVH Committee	
Misc. Income-Library Rent/Interest	611.30
	<b>£30,613.91</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>	
Administration	£1168.80
Clerk's Salary Gross	7046.76
Highways/Open Spaces	260.00
Insurance/Subscriptions	2119.99
Donations - s137	436.30
Village Hall Expenditure:	
Appley Bridge	5963.39
Mossy Lea	7446.78
VAT To Reclaim	1177.71
Total Payments	£25619.73
Plus - Balance In Hand @ Bank	5019.18
	£30638.91
Less - Un-presented Cheques @ 31/3/11	25.00
	<b>£30,613.91</b>

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### Wrightington Parish Council Website - Further useful information and contacts can be found by visiting the Parish Council website at: [www.wrightingtonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.wrightingtonparishcouncil.co.uk)

Contact details, links and newsletters for partner organisations, such as the Police, Lancashire County Council and West Lancashire Borough Council can also be found on this website.

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## WIND TURBINES IN WRIGHTINGTON?

At the end of 2011 residents of Wrightington, with the support of the Parish Council, rallied together to object to the proposed erection of 2 wind turbines at Mossy Lea, Wrightington. 104 letters of objection were submitted and subsequently the application was withdrawn. With Central Government striving to meet renewable energy targets and, with Wind Turbine companies offering very favourable packages and incentives to farmers and landowners, it is only a matter of time before further planning applications are submitted for wind turbines in the Parish. A pre-application has already been dealt with by West Lancs. BC for 3 further turbines in Wrightington, with the Planning Committee concluding that an Environmental Impact Statement was not required for this development. Residents, who have now founded the WRAT (Wrightington Residents Against Turbines) PACK are challenging this decision and would urge everyone, whether directly affected or not by a wind turbine application, to encourage all neighbours, friends and family to write to the Plan-

ning Authority with their valid planning objections as soon as they become aware of an application. Guidance on what will constitute a valid planning objection, together with sample letters of objection, can be found on the WRAT PACK website together with more factual information on the economics of wind power, energy output and global warming:

[www.saveourlandscape.webstarts.com](http://www.saveourlandscape.webstarts.com).

As the Planning Authority are only obliged to notify the residents immediately affected by an application, do not assume if you have received a notification that all your neighbours will be aware of it. A recent landmark ruling (reported in the Daily Mail) stated that a High Court Judge ruled today (30/5/2012) that the Villagers right to preserve their landscape was more important than the Government's renewable energy targets.

Join the fight to keep Wrightington Rural.

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## Top 3 Priorities

The Parish Council would be interested in determining what the residents of Wrightington consider to be their 3 top priorities in the Parish. To indicate your priorities please visit the Parish Council website and register the 3 items you consider to be most important eg: refuse collection, highway matters, street lighting, public footpaths. Once the information has been collated the Council will contact the relevant authority to request assistance with service delivery or improvement to meet the needs of the residents of Wrightington.

## Bird & Bat Watch

Children, young people and adults are being encouraged to visit the Parish Council website to log sightings of Owls, Bats, Birds and any other protected species. Giving details of dates, times and locations of sightings will enable the Parish Council to compile details of wildlife in the Parish.

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## *Extracts from the Parish Council Annual Parish Report*

**Below & overleaf. The complete Report can be viewed on the Parish Council Website**

The Council began the year with 5 members. Vacancies were advertised and the Council appointed Mr David Page MBE and Mrs Davina Hanlon to the Appley Bridge Ward Councillors posts. However, Councillor Page recently tendered his resignation. Parish Council vacancies have now been advertised.

**FINANCE** - The Council precepted upon West Lancashire Borough Council for £6600.00 for the financial year 2011/2012 and received Concurrent Contributions of £4730.00 (the same as the previous year). The Parish Council accounts for the year ending 31 March 2011 were audited by BDO Stoy Hayward—no matters arising. All advisory, informative and procedural documentation used by the Parish Council was reviewed, amended and approved as required and formerly adopted at the Annual Meeting of the Council.

**PLANNING** - 57 Planning Applications have been dealt with by the Parish Council during the year, in comparison to 54 applications last year. A large public attendance at the December Meeting resulted in objections to the proposals to erect 2 10kw wind turbines at Raby Fold Farm, Mossy Lea Road, Wrightington. The Council and residents objected to the proposals on a number of grounds including, amongst others:- inappropriate development in the Green Belt, significant adverse impact on the visual amenity of the Green Belt, the residents, community and Parish as a whole. The scale, appearance and visual impact of the structures would have a severe detrimental impact on the skyline and rural nature of the area and would be out of keeping with the street scene. These proposals would ruin the existing beautiful landscape of Wrightington, described by West Lancashire Borough Council as an Area of Landscape History of County Importance, rather than resulting in a better place to live. They would also contravene Borough Council policies which advise that proposals should avoid uncharacteristic or visually intrusive development, should avoid interference with long distance views from high points accessible to the public and should avoid the introduction of tall columnar constructions. The Council further believed a full Health Impact Assessment should be conducted to assess the health and wellbeing implications associated with the noise, vibration and

flicker/strobe effects produced by the wind turbines. A site specific Noise Survey should be undertaken as research indicates that the noise produced by wind turbines is constant, monotonous and, as well as being heard when in close proximity to the turbines, also carries some considerable distance and would therefore affect many of the homes and residents on Church Lane and Mossy Lea Road, as well as further afield.

Anyone can access planning applications by logging onto the West Lancashire Borough Council website, navigating to, “view and comment on, planning applications”, inputting the planning application number, address of the property or type of planning application and, details, maps, plans and associated documents can be viewed and comments, objections and observations submitted online.

**POLICING** - PCSO Benson remains responsible for Policing Wrightington, and has continued to Police this large geographical area admirably and to the best of his ability. PACT issues can now be raised at the Coffee Mornings held at Mossy Lea Village Hall which PCSO Benson attends to meet residents, pass on information and advice, and to collect details of PACT issues requiring attention.

**VILLAGE HALLS** - Fire detection and security at the village halls is monitored and checked annually and all electrical equipment has been PAT tested. Christmas Trees were again erected at both Halls. The Council installed flag pole holders at both Halls and it is anticipated flags will be flown to mark the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee, Armed Forces Day, and Remembrance Day. Village Halls were again used recently for the Local Council elections.

**APPLEY BRIDGE:** Investigations are continuing into the removal of the false ceilings in the hall and kitchen to reveal the roof trusses. Work involved in the successful bid to West Lancs. BC for an access improvement scheme,

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**APPLEY BRIDGE:** Investigations are continuing into the removal of the false ceilings in the hall and kitchen to reveal the roof trusses. Work involved in the successful bid to West Lancs. BC for an access improvement scheme,

**Annual Report Continued:** removing the flag path on the approach to the hall and replacing it with tarmac tied into the existing car park surface was completed this year. The Parish Council has submitted a bid to West Lincs. BC annual Capital Bids for funding towards the stripping and re-sealing of the floor in the hall the outcome of which has been delayed. Further applications have been submitted to Villages in Partnership and County Councillor Ms Evans to assist with the removal of the existing false ceiling in the kitchen and replacement with a more modern ceiling together with electrical and re-decoration work. Considerable repair work was required to the central heating system this year. The Hall is used on a regular basis by organisations including dancing class, the Women's Institute and the Pensioners Association.

**MOSSY LEA:** Work forming part of the successful funding secured from the 2010/11 capital bid to West Lincs. BC was completed. Coffee Mornings at the village hall, supported by the Council, are now well attended and continue to raise funds for Cancer Research UK. The Council support this amenity by allowing use of the hall free of charge and residents can obtain information and advice from other outside organisations such as Help Direct, the Police and the Fire Service who regularly attend. Since the start of the Coffee Mornings two years ago, Cancer Research UK Wrightington & Wigan Group of Friends, with the support of the Parish Council, have raised in excess of £14,000. The Council also allowed free use of the hall for a Halloween Party to raise funds for the Corey Ashcroft Appeal. A Christmas Fair in late November was well attended and was an enjoyable afternoon which is likely to become an Annual Event. The Village Hall is now well used with 2 different Yoga Classes, a Zumba Class, a Zumba Fitness Class, a Pilates Class and for children's birthday parties. A recent application for funding from Small Sparks for small folding tables and a DVD player was successful and these items will be purchased shortly.

#### **HIGHWAYS AND THE ENVIRONMENT -**

Litter picks have been requested throughout the year. Parking problems at Mossfields, Mossy Lea, are still prominent and, with the encouragement of the Parish Council, tenants submitted a bid for funding to the Estates Management Team to create additional parking at the front of the flats facing Mossy Lea Road. The bid was suc-

cessful and West Lincs. BC and LCC are now investigating the highways and planning implications. The Parish Council offer of a full Topographical Survey to assist with the project remains. A part-time 20mph speed limit has been introduced on Mossy Lea Road, near Mossy Lea Primary School, with further 20mph speed limits being implemented on a number of estate roads in Appley Bridge. Following receipt of complaints, and with the assistance of the County Councillor, double yellow lines have been installed on Hall Lane, either side of Wrightington Hospital entrance. Following devolution of responsibility for grass cutting from LCC to West Lincs. BC, grass verge cutting was undertaken by the Borough Council this year with a number of amenity areas continuing to be cut by the Parish Council. In 2011 the Council were informed by LCC that funding for Bus Shelter provision had been withdrawn therefore, plans for the new shelter near Mossfields were withdrawn. The bus shelter near the junction at Mossy Lea Road/Chisnall Avenue, has undergone refurbishment including a new roof and the inclusion of a notice board. This shelter, and the one opposite the BP garage, have been cleaned. Councillors attended the Calico Brook, Appley Bridge, Flood Risk Management Scheme public open day where a scheme to potentially alleviate flooding problems associated with excess water from the quarry in Appley Bridge were displayed and discussed. The anticipated cost of the scheme is £1.1 million, which will come from DEFRA funding. It is hoped this work will address a long standing problem in the Parish. The Parish Council has recently been consulted on a proposed new name for the road between No.5 Mossy Lea Road and Bluebird Garage, off Mossy Lea Road. The Council objected to 'Macey Lane' and suggested alternatives. The Council await the outcome of this consultation. The Parish Council continue to pursue the upgrading of the right of way from Moss Lane to Mossy Lea Road from a footpath to a bridleway.

Reported at the Annual Parish Meeting 21 May 2012

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#### **HIGHWAYS AND THE ENVIRONMENT -**

Litter picks have been requested throughout the year. Parking problems at Mossfields, Mossy Lea, are still prominent and, with the encouragement of the Parish Council, tenants submitted a bid for funding to the Estates Management Team to create additional parking at the front of the flats facing Mossy Lea Road. The bid was suc-

cessful and West Lincs. BC and LCC are now investigating the highways and planning implications. The Parish Council offer of a full Topographical Survey to assist with the project remains. A part-time 20mph speed limit has been introduced on Mossy Lea Road, near Mossy Lea Primary School, with further 20mph speed limits being implemented on a number of estate roads in Appley Bridge. Following receipt of complaints, and with the assistance of the County Councillor, double yellow lines have been installed on Hall Lane, either side of Wrightington Hospital entrance. Following devolution of responsibility for grass cutting from LCC to West Lincs. BC, grass verge cutting was undertaken by the Borough Council this year with a number of amenity areas continuing to be cut by the Parish Council. In 2011 the Council were informed by LCC that funding for Bus Shelter provision had been withdrawn therefore, plans for the new shelter near Mossfields were withdrawn. The bus shelter near the junction at Mossy Lea Road/Chisnall Avenue, has undergone refurbishment including a new roof and the inclusion of a notice board. This shelter, and the one opposite the BP garage, have been cleaned. Councillors attended the Calico Brook, Appley Bridge, Flood Risk Management Scheme public open day where a scheme to potentially alleviate flooding problems associated with excess water from the quarry in Appley Bridge were displayed and discussed. The anticipated cost of the scheme is £1.1 million, which will come from DEFRA funding. It is hoped this work will address a long standing problem in the Parish. The Parish Council has recently been consulted on a proposed new name for the road between No.5 Mossy Lea Road and Bluebird Garage, off Mossy Lea Road. The Council objected to 'Macey Lane' and suggested alternatives. The Council await the outcome of this consultation. The Parish Council continue to pursue the upgrading of the right of way from Moss Lane to Mossy Lea Road from a footpath to a bridleway.

Reported at the Annual Parish Meeting 21 May 2012